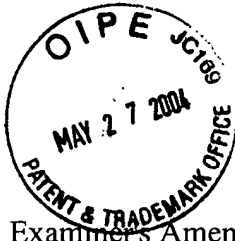


Remarks:



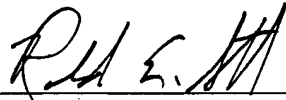
If an Examiner's Amendment would place the pending claims in condition for allowance, a telephone call to the undersigned at (727) 507-8558 is requested.

Very respectfully,

SMITH & HOPEN

Dated: May 24, 2004

By:

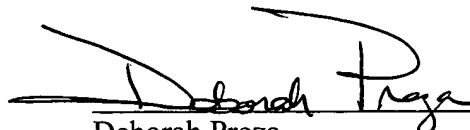

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. 1.8)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Preliminary Amendment, including Introductory Comments, Replacement Drawings, and Remarks, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 24, 2004.

Dated: May 24, 2004


Deborah Preza